



PRESS ADVISORY

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February 26, 2004
For Immediate Release

Release: G4 04-04

Elite U. S. Navy Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen to Train on Rogue River

NORFOLK, Va. – For the first time ever, elite U.S. Navy Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen (SWCC – pronounced “swick”), operating the state-of-the-art, high performance Special Operations Craft-Riverine (SOC-R), will conduct training in the rapids of the Rogue River with assistance from pilots at Hellgate Jetboat Excursions.

SWCCs assigned to Special Boat Team TWENTY TWO (SBT-22), based at Stennis Space Center in Mississippi will train in two SOC-Rs on the Rogue River in Grants Pass, OR for approximately eight days beginning March 2, 2004.

Invitation: Media are invited to see these craft first hand and talk with the elite SWCCs prior to the commencement of their training on March 1, 2004 at 1 p.m. (PST).

Media interested in attending are requested to provide the name of the reporter and/or photographer via email and/or phone call to Chief Petty Officer Tom Jones, Public Affairs Officer, Naval Special Warfare Group FOUR, or Karen Gillespie, Medford District Public Affairs Officer, Bureau of Land Management, **no later than 12 p.m., Sunday, Feb. 29, 2004.**

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SWCCs to Train on Rogue River

Background on Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen (SWCC):

The Special Warfare Combatant-craft Crewmen (SWCC) of SBT-22 operate and maintain the state-of-the-art, high performance Special Operations Craft–Riverine (SOC-R) used to support Navy SEALs and other Special Forces to conduct missions throughout the world.

SWCCs train extensively in craft and weapons tactics, techniques and procedures. Focusing on clandestine infiltration and ex-filtration of SEALs and other special forces, SWCCs provide dedicated, rapid mobility in shallow water areas where larger ships cannot go.

SWCCs first distinguished themselves during the Vietnam War, conducting operations in the rivers of Vietnam and Cambodia. After years of supporting counter-drug initiatives in South America, SBT-22 was recently called upon to fill an important role in Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF). SBT-22 is the sole riverine force provider for Special Operations Forces and deploys around the world in support of the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT).

For more information on Naval Special Warfare, check out www.swcc.navy.mil

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